GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2005
ANSWERED ON:21.07.2004
DEPENDENCE OF DOCTORS ON TEST REPORTS
Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that the dependence of doctors on test reports to diagnose diseases is increasing day by day;

(b) if so, whether tests are being prescribed even for mild ailments;

(c) if so, the specific steps being taken by the Government in this direction; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a)to(d): The Government do not have any specific information in this regard. However, the Medical Council of India with the approval of the Central Government have notified the Indian Medical Council (Professional conduct, Etiquette and Ethics) Regulations, 2002 in the Official Gazatte dated 6th April, 2002. As per these regulations, a physician shall not give, solicit, or receive nor shall he offer to give solicit or receive, any gift, gratuity, commission or bonus in consideration of or return for the referring, recommending or procuring of any patient for medical, surgical or other treatment. A physician shall not directly or indirectly, participate in or be a party to act of division, transference, assignment, subordination, rebating, splitting or refunding of any fee for medical, surgical or other treatment. This shall apply with equal force to the referring, recommending or procuring by a physician or any person, specimen or material for diagnostic purposes or other study/work. The violation of any of the provisions of the said regulations shall invite disciplinary proceedings including removal of the name of the delinquent doctor from the register.